

09-30-04

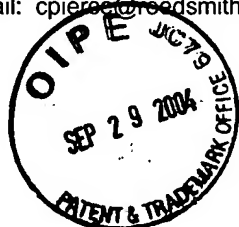
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JH

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September 29, 2004

**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Applicaton of: Pace et al.  
Serial No.: 09/737,402  
Confirmation No.: 8823  
Filed: December 15, 2000  
Attorney Docket No.: 99-40264  
For: SHRINK-WRAP CASKET SHIELD

**TRANSMITTAL**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Enclosed for filing is an amendment and response to the Office Action which has a mailing date of June 29, 2004 in the above-entitled invention. The following documents are submitted herewith:

- 1) Amendment and Response to Office Action dated June 29, 2004 (including Exhibits A-D); and
- 2) A self-addressed stamped return receipt postcard

**Certificate of Express Mail (37 CFR 1.10)**

I hereby certify that the attached Patent Application, and any document referred to as being attached or included, is being deposited with the "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service of the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 29, 2004. The number of the "Express Mail" mailing label (EV481405959US) has been placed on the accompanying correspondence prior to mailing. It is therefore respectfully requested that the attached be considered as having been filed in the Office on the date shown above in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.10.

Clare W. Becken  
(Signature of person mailing documents)

Elaine W. Becken  
(Type or print name of person mailing documents)

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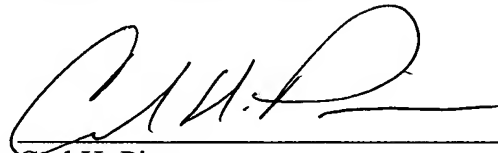
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Commissioner for Patents  
September 29, 2004  
Page 2

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees required or credit any overpayment in connection with this filing to Deposit Account No. 18-0586

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C.H. Pierce', written over a horizontal line.

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re:	Patent Application of	:	Attorney Docket No.:
	Pace et al.	:	99-40264-US
		:	
Serial No.:	09/737,402	:	Group Art Unit:
Conf. No.:	8823	:	3677
		:	
Filed:	December 15, 2000	:	Examiner:
		:	Miller, William L.
For:	SHRINK-WRAP CASKET SHIELD		

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The following Response is being submitted in response to the First Office Action dated June 29, 2004, to which a shortened statutory response period expires on September 29, 2004. This Response is being filed within the shortened statutory period , and accordingly is believed timely filed.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on Page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Figures** are reflected in the Replacement Sheets and Annotated Sheets Showing Changes contained in Exhibits A and B.

A **Substitute Specification** is provided in Exhibit C, with a marked up version of the Substitute Specification provided in Exhibit D.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Certificate of Express Mail (37 CFR 1.10)**

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Elaine Weisbecker  
(Signature of person mailing documents)

Elaine Weisbecker  
(Type or print name of person mailing documents)